THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government is contemplating the establishment of an autonomous Authority to regulate content on TV channels. A draft Bill is under preparation.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that a conference of regional news units of northern region of All India Radio was held in Shimla on 20th & 21st June, 2005. This conference was held with the aim of improving the quality of news programming at regional level. It also discussed issues like introduction of new technology and utilisation of new range of equipment.

Employees working in Prasar Bharati

†48. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI JANARDAN DWIVEDI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the position of employees working in Prasar Bharati;

(b) whether they are Government employees or that of Prasar Bharati;

(c) the terms of service of these employees; and

(d) whether the rules applicable to the Government employees are also applicable to the employees of Prasar Bharati?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) Most of the employees presently working in Prasar Bharati are Central Government employees. They are on deemed deputation on terms applicable to Central Government employees.

Ban on channels in Bhutan

†49. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhutan has imposed ban on many channels being telecast from India;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.